

## **Historic, archived document**

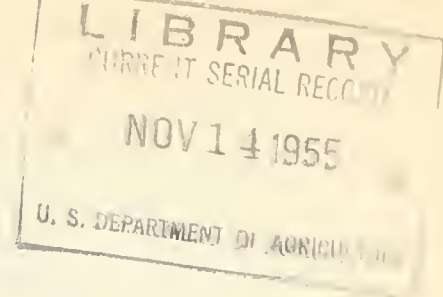
Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



19  
+2F

# Foreign

# CROPS AND MARKETS



FOR RELEASE MONDAY, AUGUST 8, 1955

VOLUME 71

NUMBER 6

## CONTENTS

	PAGE
COTTON	
Egyptian Cotton Acreage Up 15 Percent From 1954.....	138
Mexican Cotton Transshipments Higher Than Last Year.....	134
DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS	
International Trade in Dairy Products in 1954.....	144
European Butter Trade Declines.....	139
Ireland Bans Cheese Imports.....	139
FATS, OILSEEDS AND OILS	
Belgium Imposes Transmission Tax on Imported Oilcake.....	149
Argentine Tung Oil Exports to U.S. 1.1 Million Pounds in July.....	149
GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS, FEEDS AND SEEDS	
Greece Harvesting Large Wheat Crop.....	136
U.K. Wheat Crop in Good Condition.....	137
France Reports Another Large Wheat Crop.....	137
LIVESTOCK AND MEAT PRODUCTS	
World Meat Trade Increases in 1954.....	140
Danish-British Bacon Contract Being Negotiated.....	140
Beef Surplus in Norway.....	139
SUGAR AND TROPICAL PRODUCTS	
World Cocoa Bean Production for 1955-56 Forecast at 1,784 Million Pounds.....	128
Coffee and the Brazilian Economy.....	135
Dominican Republic Coffee Crop Revisions.....	134
TOBACCO	
Turkey-East Germany Trade Pact Provides for Tobacco Sale.....	131
Venezuela Tobacco Imports Up.....	131
Ireland's Tobacco Imports Down 20 Percent.....	132
Italian Trade in Tobacco Up.....	133
Cuban Tobacco Crop Estimates Raised.....	134

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL SERVICE  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

## WORLD COCOA BEAN PRODUCTION FOR 1955-56 FORECAST AT 1,784 MILLION POUNDS

Total world cocoa bean production for the 1955-56 season is forecast at 1,784 million pounds (796 thousand long tons) by the Foreign Agricultural Service. This preliminary forecast exceeds the revised estimate of 1954-55 production of 1,745 million pounds by 2.2 percent. This forecast is 11.2 percent greater than the revised estimate of 1,603 million pounds for 1953-54, and is 12.8 percent above the production of 1,581 million pounds for the prewar period 1935-36/1939-40.

Moderate increases from several countries of Central America and the smaller producing countries of South America, together with somewhat larger gains in Ecuador, the French Cameroons and Nigeria, account for the 2.2 percent increase in the 1955-56 forecast of world production.

It should be noted, however, that the 20 million pound increase predicted for Nigeria and the 15 million pound increase for Ecuador represent a return to nearly normal production following an abnormally low 1954-55 season.

The 1955-56 preliminary forecast for Brazil is placed at a little over 348 million pounds which is about 24 million pounds under the heavy crop of the 1954-55 season. Brazil's 1955-56 mid-crop (normally harvested from May to September) appears promising at 203 million pounds although 13 million pounds under the bumper mid-crop of 1954-55.

#### FOREIGN CROPS AND MARKETS

Published weekly to assist the foreign marketing of U. S. farm products by keeping the nation's agricultural interests informed of current crop and livestock developments abroad, foreign trends in production, prices, supplies and consumption of farm products, and other factors affecting world agricultural trade. Circulation is free to persons in the U. S. needing the information it contains.

Foreign Crops and Markets is distributed only upon a request basis. Should you find you have no need for this publication, please tear off the addressograph imprint with your name and address, pencil "drop" upon it, and send it to the Foreign Agricultural Service, Room 5918, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D. C.



**COCOA BEANS: Production in principal producing countries, averages 1935-36/1939-40,  
annual 1953-54, 1954-55, and forecast 1955-56 1/**

Continent and country	Average 1935-36/ 1939-40 2/	1953-54	Preliminary 1954-55	Preliminary Forecast 1955-56
	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>	<u>1,000 pounds</u>
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>				
Costa Rica.....	14,356	13,448	15,432	16,000
Cuba.....	7,000	7,500	5,578	6,100
Dominican Republic.....	54,049	65,510	84,024	85,000
Grenada.....	8,536	5,981	7,000	7,000
Haiti.....	3,349	5,000	2,500	5,000
Jamaica.....	4,750	4,800	5,250	6,750
Mexico.....	2,500	20,944	22,818	24,000
Panama.....	10,418	4,000	4,250	4,500
Trinidad and Tobago.....	31,635	16,000	18,500	20,000
Other North America 4/ ....	4,059	4,735	4,904	4,900
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>140,652</b>	<b>147,918</b>	<b>170,256</b>	<b>179,250</b>
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>				
Brazil.....	263,980	271,470	372,357	348,300
Colombia.....	25,000	33,069	35,273	36,000
Ecuador.....	42,373	65,930	55,787	71,000
Venezuela.....	36,934	37,478	37,037	39,100
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>368,287</b>	<b>407,947</b>	<b>500,454</b>	<b>494,400</b>
<b>AFRICA</b>				
Belgian Congo.....	2,809	6,143	6,614	7,000
Fernando Po and Rio Muni...	25,000	38,636	39,683	40,500
French Cameroons.....	58,350	125,221	127,867	141,090
French Equatorial Africa...	1,871	6,008	6,614	7,710
Ivory Coast.....	109,937	116,844	145,184	145,000
Gold Coast 6/ .....	609,363	482,975	511,921	512,000
Nigeria 7/ .....	216,318	218,239	182,455	201,600
Sao Thome and Principe.....	22,496	15,896	16,887	17,000
Other Africa 8/ .....	8,154	19,300	19,500	19,550
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>1,054,298</b>	<b>1,029,262</b>	<b>1,056,725</b>	<b>1,091,450</b>
<b>ASIA AND OCEANIA</b>				
Ceylon.....	7,931	6,700	7,000	7,500
Indonesia.....	3,310	2,700	3,000	3,000
New Hebrides.....	3,916	2,064	2,060	2,060
Western Samoa.....	2,326	6,000	6,000	6,000
<b>Total.....</b>	<b>17,483</b>	<b>17,464</b>	<b>18,060</b>	<b>18,560</b>
<b>WORLD TOTAL.....</b>	<b>1,580,720</b>	<b>1,602,591</b>	<b>1,745,495</b>	<b>1,783,660</b>

1/ Production in Brazil is given for the 12 months May 1 to April 30. Production in most of the other countries is given for the 12 months October 1 to September 30. 2/ Export data have been used for all countries with the exception of Mexico, Cuba and Colombia. 3/ Approximated from unofficial information. 4/ Includes Dominica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Nicaragua, St. Lucia and St. Vincent. 5/ Adjusted for estimated quantity of cocoa beans produced in Gold Coast and moved across the border for marketing in French territories. 6/ Includes British Togoland. 7/ Includes British Cameroons. 8/ Includes Angola, French Togoland, Liberia, Madagascar and Sierra Leone.

Source: Foreign Agricultural Service. Official estimates of foreign countries, U.S. Agricultural Attache reports, and other information.

Because of the late start in harvesting the present mid-crop in Brazil, there are indications that the harvesting may carry over into the month of October, in which case the late harvested portion of this intermediate crop will probably be included in the first entries of the main crop.

No increase over the revised 1954-55 estimate of production for the Gold Coast and Ivory Coast is anticipated in the 1955-56 season.

On the basis of the latest information received, the estimate of world cocoa bean production for the 1954-55 season has been revised upward from 1,713 million pounds to 1,745 million pounds, an increase of 1.8 percent. The primary increases are noted in Brazil and all but one of the major producing countries of West Africa. Adverse weather conditions reduced the output of Nigeria, Ecuador and Haiti.

The 1954-55 Gold Coast crop is now estimated to reach nearly 512 million pounds (228.6 thousand long tons). Main crop purchases totaled 206,536 long tons (462.6 million pounds). The mid-crop, earlier forecast by the Gold Coast Department of Agriculture at 5,000 long tons, now appears likely to reach 7,000 long tons (15.7 million pounds.)

This larger mid-crop outturn is primarily due to the nominal increase in producer price granted by the Gold Coast Cocoa Marketing Board at the beginning of the mid-crop season. In addition 15,000 long tons (33.6 million pounds) have been added to reflect the amount of Gold Coast cocoa beans moved across the border for marketing in the Ivory Coast and French Togoland. This is done to arrive at a more accurate estimate of actual Gold Coast production. Accordingly the Ivory Coast production estimate has been reduced by 9,000 long tons (20.2 million pounds) and French Togoland by 6,000 long tons (13.4 million pounds).

It appears that the abnormally low Nigerian crop for the 1954-55 season may total a little over 182 million pounds (nearly 82 thousand long tons).

Outlook: There is much evidence that a world wide effort is underway to increase cocoa bean production. Although prices have been declining for several months and are much lower than the high levels reached in 1954, they are still attractive enough to encourage producers to expand and improve their production.

In the Western Hemisphere, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Costa Rica, Cuba, Trinidad & Tobago, Jamaica, Ecuador, Colombia and Brazil have initiated or are showing interest in cocoa improvement programs. These programs involve rehabilitation of existing plantings, extension of new plantings, development of improved planting material and disease and pest control measures.



In West Africa, the major producing countries are making a concerted effort to reduce the inroads on production made by diseases and pests that have established a strong foothold. They are also rehabilitating old cocoa areas and increasing the supply of improved planting material for distribution to farmers. Elsewhere, Ceylon plans to replace uneconomic rubber areas with cocoa, the Philippines have launched a cocoa development program and plans for increasing cocoa bean production are presently under consideration in Malaya.

It is difficult to translate this world wide effort into terms of increased production. However, it may be said that moderate increases may be expected from the smaller producing countries of the Western Hemisphere and the French Cameroons in the immediate years ahead. However, substantial increases may not be anticipated until the more distant future, depending on the progress made in Brazil, Gold Coast, Nigeria and the Ivory Coast in effecting wide spread disease and pest control measures and in overcoming the unfavorable balance that now exists between old trees in declining production and new plantings coming into production.

---

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Foreign Agricultural Service Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. It is based in part upon reports of Agricultural Attaches and other U. S. representatives abroad.

#### TURKEY-EAST GERMANY TRADE PACT PROVIDES FOR TOBACCO SALE

According to information contained in Tobacco (a monthly trade journal published in the United Kingdom) of July 1955, the Soviet zone of Germany is to receive \$14 million worth of Turkish tobacco between May 1, 1955, and June 30, 1956.

As the East German Government is not recognized by Turkey, the trade agreement will be signed by a delegate of the Association of Turkish Chambers of Trade and Industry.

#### VENEZUELA TOBACCO IMPORTS UP

Venezuela's imports of unmanufactured tobacco totaled 300 thousand pounds during the first quarter of 1955 as compared with 100 thousand pounds for the corresponding period of 1954. Imports of United States leaf are increasing and account for about 60 percent of the total imports. Imports of Turkish leaf comprise about 33 percent of the market and have remained relatively constant during the past 2 years. Imports from British East Africa declined substantially during 1954 from 1953 and have continued to decline during the first quarter of 1955.

## Venezuela: Imports of Tobacco with Comparisons

Country of Origin	1953	1954	Jan.-March 1954	Jan.-March 1955
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>	<u>pounds</u>
Unmanufactured tobacco:				
United States.....	491	457	52	194
Turkey.....	292	255	52	101
Netherlands.....	1	1	1/	1/
British East Africa....	83	42	11	5
Other.....	-	2	1	12
Total.....	867	757	116	312
Cigarettes:				
United States.....	2,827	3,102	455	721
United Kingdom.....	49	52	15	15
Other.....	1	4	-	-
Total	2,877	3,158	470	736

1/ Less than 500 pounds.

Source: Boletín Mensual De Estadística.

Imports of cigarettes continued upward during the first 3 months of 1955 with increasing quantities from the United States. Imports of United States cigarettes represent about 98 percent of total imports.

#### IRELAND'S TOBACCO IMPORTS DOWN 20 PERCENT

Ireland's imports of unmanufactured tobacco during the January-April period of 1955 totaled 3.2 million pounds--down 20 percent from the 4.0 million pounds imported during the corresponding period of 1954. Imports of United States tobacco, principally flue-cured, declined to 2.9 million pounds, as compared with 3.8 million for the first four months of 1954.

However, the United States continued to be Ireland's principal source of leaf, furnishing 89 percent, even though it's share of the market has been decreasing gradually. Sources of unmanufactured tobacco supplanting United States types to a certain extent include India, Canada, Northern and Southern Rhodesia. These tobaccos are not used in manufacture of cigarettes due to the strong consumer preference for American flue-cured. The decline in imports of leaf is attributed to the ample stocks position.



ITALIAN TRADE IN  
TOBACCO UP

Italian imports of leaf tobacco during the first quarter of 1955 totaled 10.3 million pounds as compared with 2.5 million pounds during the corresponding period of 1954. Imports of Bulgarian leaf accounted for more than one-half of the total imports with the remainder coming about equally from Greece and Turkey. Italian imports of Bulgarian leaf during the first quarter of 1955 exceeded total imports for all calendar years since 1923, except for 1942, when they totaled 7.7 million pounds.

Italy: Trade in leaf tobacco during the January-March periods, 1954-55.

Country	Imports		Exports	
	1954	1955	1954	1955
	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds	1,000 Pounds
France.....	-	-	324	1,688
Greece.....	2,498	2,232	-	-
Netherlands.....	-	-	610	1/
United Kingdom...	-	-	496	1/
Sweden.....	-	-	685	1/
Switzerland.....	-	-	1,006	359
Soviet Union.....	-	-	1,113	2,876
Algeria.....	-	-	407	1/
Bulgaria.....1/	-	5,791	-	-
West Germany.....	-	-	1/	1,549
Turkey.....1/	-	2,314	-	-
United States.....1/	-	-	1/	410
Other.....	4	-	1,770	309
Total.....	2,502	10,337	6,411	7,191

1/ If any, included in other.

Source: Statistica Del Commercio L'estero.

Exports of Italian leaf during the first 3 months of 1955 totaled 7.2 million pounds--up 12.2 percent from the 6.4 million pounds exported during the corresponding period of 1954. The Soviet Union continued to be the principal export outlet with the Federal Republic of Germany and France increasing their takings of Italian leaf. Exports to Switzerland declined from the comparable period in 1954.

Imports of Swiss cigarettes continued their upward trend during the first quarter of 1955 accounting for 70 percent of the total as compared with 66 percent for the comparable period in 1954. Also, imports from the United States increased substantially while imports from other countries showed a decline.

#### CUBAN TOBACCO CROP ESTIMATES RAISED

The 1955 Cuban tobacco crop is now placed at 104.7 million pounds according to Chester E. Davis, Agricultural Attache, American Embassy, Havana. This is more than 13 million pounds above pre-harvest estimates of the crop and is 69 percent above the quota allocation announced by the Cuban Minister of Agriculture in November 1954.

Revisions in previously reported estimates for the 1953 and 1954 crops indicate that output considerably exceeded quotas in those years. Actual registrations by producers with the Stabilization Fund total 110.7 million pounds in 1954 and 95 million in 1953, as compared with previous estimates of 91.1 million and 78.2 million pounds in those respective years.

Minimum prices for the 1955 crop of sun-grown tobacco have been set by decree from the Minister of Agriculture and range from 17.75 cents to 44.4 cents per pound, depending on grade of leaf and producing area. While no information has been received with reference to sales this year, the Cuban Government may be having difficulty in maintaining prices at desired levels in view of the size of the crop and the large stocks on hand from previous crops.

#### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC COFFEE CROP REVISIONS

Total coffee production in the Dominican Republic for the season 1955-56 is now forecast at 552,200 bags (of 132.276 pounds each), compared with 460,000 bags for the season 1954-55. This information, as of July 24, 1955, has been received from Foster Blackburn, Foreign Agricultural Service representative presently in the Dominican Republic and Haiti. The previous forecast and estimate published for 1955-56 and 1954-55 were 515,000 and 438,000 bags respectively. An earlier report had indicated that coffee trees in the Dominican Republic were heavily blossomed and for the early crop significant increases are expected for highland coffee during 1955-56.

Mr. Blackburn reports that internal coffee consumption of the Dominican Republic is fairly constant at about 108,000 bags. At this rate of domestic usage, exportable production can be calculated at 444,200 bags for 1955-56 and 352,000 bags for the current season.

#### MEXICAN COTTON TRANSSHIPMENTS HIGHER THAN LAST YEAR

Transshipments of Mexican cotton through United States ports in April 1955 amounted to 69,000 bales (500 pounds gross), making a total of 746,000 bales shipped for August-April 1954-55 or 19 percent more than the 629,000 bales shipped in the corresponding period of the previous year.



During April 1955, the principal destinations were: Japan 41,000 bales; United Kingdom 9,000; Netherlands 5,000; Germany 4,000; and Belgium, Sweden and Italy 2,000 bales each. These figures include linters, waste, and hull fiber, but do not include transshipments of cotton to Canada by railroad, or exports from Mexican ports directly to foreign destinations.

#### COFFEE AND THE BRAZILIAN ECONOMY

The following is an abstract of a U. S. Foreign Service Despatch prepared by Leslie A. Squires, Commercial Policy Officer, American Embassy, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

#### 1955-56 Crop Regulations

Regulations covering the new coffee crop have now largely been completed. On June 29, the Bank of Brazil set the first part of the new 1955-56 pattern by fixing the loan basis for Santos type 4 at ports at Cr\$1,950 per 60-kilo bag, with discounts for other grades and locations. This new loan basis was Cr\$200 below that in effect in the past season and equivalent to US\$.40 per pound.

According to the press, certain sectors of the coffee trade did not look with favor on a reduction in the level of financing for the new crop season. The Diario de Noticias on June 30, for example, quoted Jose Lavoirier Istevés, president of the Coffee Trade Center in Rio, as stating that the new policy would only serve to decrease coffee prices paid to the growers. In general, however, the trade appeared to consider the rate set as about the best that could be expected under existing crop and market conditions. 1/

On June 30, the Brazilian Coffee Institute announced 1955-56 marketing regulations covering movement to ports of 17.4 million bags of coffee. The regulations established monthly and semi-annual quotas for each growing area and port, specifying the share of the crop of each region to be shipped to each of the coffee ports. As a concession to those demanding greater flexibility in coffee marketing, the new regulations established a special quota of 1.12 million bags, divided between the various ports and growing areas, which can be shipped at any time after July 1. This special quota is expected to assist the trade in meeting special demands which may arise at various times at the leading ports.

---

1/ Reports have recently been received that the Bank of Brazil is paying less than the established loan rate in certain coffee growing areas. These reductions, apparently resulting from the fact that the regulations set Cr\$1,950 as a "base" rather than a fixed figure, suggest that there may be some flexibility in the financing rate established in the new crop year and that the figures given in the regulations may be only a basis from which specific loan rates will be drawn.



The shipping regulations follow the pattern set in previous years, with a system of registration and liberation established for all coffee. Special treatment is granted "washed" and "preferential" coffee.

The rules are, in general, considered to be more liberal than in the past. One regulation especially recommended by local coffee shippers is an article permitting the substitution of one type of unliberated coffee for an equal amount of liberated coffee from another area. The coffee trade sees this rule as a distinct improvement since it will permit shippers to meet demands for specific types of coffee. In the past, shippers had no choice but to direct buyers to other ports if liberated stocks of the required type or grade were not available in a given port. In the future, a shipper may meet the demand for a type of coffee not immediately available in the liberated stock at his port by giving a "promissory note" in the form of an equal stock of liberated coffee of another type or grade.

On July 5, the Superintendency of Money and Credit (SUMOC) added another element to the 1955-56 coffee pattern by eliminating the guarantee of the coffee export bonus rate established by SUMOC Instruction No. 114 of February 5, 1955. The effect of this action was to end the guarantee given overseas buyers that, in the event the coffee export bonus rate was increased within 45 days of an overseas sale, the buyer would receive the benefit of any resulting difference in foreign currency price through reimbursement of such difference in foreign currency. In evaluating this step, the local coffee trade generally concluded that it could only preface a change in the bonus rate for export coffee.

On July 13, the Central de Brazil railway, a primary agent in forwarding coffee to the ports, set one of the final parts of the 1955-56 coffee regulations by releasing rules covering rail shipment of coffee from growing areas to ports.

Regulations for the new crop season, as of the date of this report, contain no provision for direct price support or for government purchase of coffee stocks. While the financing level of Cr\$1,950 represents a price peg, it is not a price-support mechanism. Should the price fall below the loan level, delivery of the coffee to the Bank of Brazil does not settle the debt, any balance between the value of the coffee and the amount of the loan being for the account of the borrower. The financing mechanism, as a result, cannot be considered as establishing a floor beyond which coffee prices cannot fall.

#### GREECE HARVESTING LARGE WHEAT CROP

Present prospects in Greece point to a 1955 wheat production approximating the record harvest of 51.4 million bushels in 1953, according to a recent report from the American Embassy, Athens. Though harvesting was well under way at the time of the report, harvesting returns were not comprehensive enough to make possible a firm estimate.



The acreage seeded to wheat for the current crop is 2,534,000 acres, only slightly less than the record acreage of 1953. Weather conditions have been generally favorable, though high humidity in May caused minor development of rust in some areas. Some shrinkage of grain was also reported as a result of hot winds during late May and part of June.

The 1955 wheat collection program was officially announced June 20. The collection program, originally established to ensure adequate supplies of bread grains for the country, has more recently become a device for ensuring more favorable prices to the producers. The current program provides for unlimited collection, available to all growers. Rates set vary from the equivalent of \$2.82 per bushel for smallest growers to \$2.46 per bushel for largest growers and threshers. Normally, about 40 percent of the total production reaches commercial channels, with a large part of the total production retained by growers for food, seed, and miscellaneous uses.

#### U. K. WHEAT CROP IN GOOD CONDITION

The grain harvest in the United Kingdom will be 2 to 3 weeks later than usual, with few growers expecting to begin harvest operations before the second week in August. The lateness of the harvest is not surprising, in view of the late start of spring sowing. An unusually large proportion of the wheat crop was spring sown because wet weather held up grain seeding in the fall of 1954.

The condition of the growing wheat crop on July 1 was reported as 95 in a system in which 100 represents healthy condition, full growth and freedom from injury. Thus, despite the late start, the wheat condition is better than the average of 93 for the past 10 years. Though grain crops are generally healthy, reports of loose smut in the barley crop of some areas have been received.

On the basis of present condition, the outlook for wheat is about the same as in 1952 when a crop of 86 million bushels was produced. Both acreage and condition approximate those of 1952. A crop of that size is substantially less than the harvests of the past 2 seasons when outturns of about 100 million bushels were reported.

#### FRANCE REPORTS ANOTHER LARGE WHEAT CROP

The 1955 wheat crop in France is now estimated at about 367 million bushels, according to a recent forecast by the Ministry of Agriculture. This is slightly above earlier forecasts but is less than the all-time record harvest of 386 million bushels last year. Though the current production appears to be about 5 percent less than the record crop of 1954, this year's grain is of higher quality, with lower moisture content than the 1954 harvest.

Export availabilities for the year beginning August 1 are tentatively set at 85 million bushels. This would be less than exports for the year ended July 31, 1955 when shipments to foreign destinations and to French overseas territories are estimated to have reached the record figure of about 98 million bushels. That figure for total exports of wheat and flour put France in fourth place among world wheat exporters for 1954-55. Substantial subsidy payments put the grain on a competitive price basis.

At latest report, the Government had not acted to set the wheat price to be paid growers in 1955-56. The National Cereals Office (ONIC) has recommended a price, the equivalent of \$2.53 per bushel for the 1955-56 marketing season. This is about 6 percent less than the price advocated by the Wheat Growers Association at its annual Congress in late June. The price recommended by the Cereals Office applies only to the first 250 million bushels commercialized.

#### EGYPTIAN COTTON ACREAGE UP 15 PERCENT FROM 1954

The total area planted to cotton in Egypt in 1955 is estimated at 1,883,000 acres, which exceeds the 1954 area by 244,000 acres, or about 15 percent, according to the first official acreage report of the Ministry of Agriculture. About 125,000 acres, nearly one-half, of the increase is in Lower Egypt, as shown in the following table:

EGYPT: Acreage planted to cotton, 1955  
and 1954, by regions

Region	Acreage planted to cotton	
	1955	1954
	<u>1,000 acres</u>	<u>1,000 acres</u>
Lower Egypt.....	1,201	1,076
Middle Egypt.....	412	359
Upper Egypt.....	270	204
Total.....	1,883	1,639

The acreage estimated for 1955 exceeds the area planted in 1953 by about 37 percent or 508,000 acres, but is nearly 10 percent below the post-war Egyptian peak of 2,055,000 acres reached in 1951.

The Ministry's report stated that, on the basis of a 1955 yield equal to the average for the last 5 years, the current Egyptian crop might total about 1,685,000 bales (500 pounds gross weight), compared with the 1954 crop of 1,598,000 bales. However, reported extensive insect infestation may reduce yield prospects.



## EUROPEAN BUTTER TRADE DECLINES

Butter trade of European importers has declined about 25 percent from last year, according to current trade data compiled by the Commonwealth Economic Committee.

Of the several Continental European countries which import butter, there has been a marked decline in January to March 1955, compared with the same period last year. France and Italy showed the largest drop; each took almost 2.5 million pounds less. The decline in Belgium butter imports in 1955 was 1.75 million pounds. These 3 countries in 1954 imported 17.8 million pounds of butter in January to March 1954. In the same period in 1955 they imported 11.2 million pounds, a total decline for the three countries of 6.6 million pounds, or 37 percent.

Decreased production of butter in Switzerland during the winter was followed by an increase of butter imports. During January to May 1954, Swiss butter imports totaled 2.7 million pounds. This figure rose to more than 4.1 million pounds during the same period of 1955, for a gain of more than 50 percent. However, the increase in Swiss receipts did not offset the decreased exports of the other three countries and total takings were down about 25 percent in the January-March period of this year compared to 1954.

## IRELAND BANS CHEESE IMPORTS

The Minister of Agriculture for Ireland, under authority conferred by Section 29 of the Dairy Produce (Price Stabilization) Act of 1935, has banned the further importation of cheese. The order, S. I. Number 119 of 1955 was effective as of the 28th of June. No reason is given for the prohibition.

During 1954 Irish imports of cheese amounted to about 712,000 pounds. According to the American Embassy, Dublin, imports for the first 4 months of 1955 already amounted to over 300,000 pounds. Exports, on the other hand, amounted to 68,000 pounds during the January to April 1955 period, while exports for the calendar year 1954 were almost 500,000 pounds and for 1953 were 1.3 million pounds. Most of Ireland's exports were to Britain; imports originated mainly in the Netherlands, Denmark, Switzerland, France and Italy.

## BEEF SURPLUS IN NORWAY

Beef production in Norway this spring exceeded the demand and large quantities have been stored for use later on this year. Cold storage space in early July was reported filled to capacity and the large stocks were creating uncertainty in the meat trade.

The accumulation of surplus beef during the spring was somewhat unusual. It resulted largely from the late development of pastures this spring and shortages of winter feed. Cattle which could not be carried until the appearance of new grazing had to be butchered.

In recent years Norway's meat production has increased materially with increases in all classes -- beef; mutton and pork. Beef and veal production during 1954 was estimated at 105 million pounds compared with 96 million a year earlier and 87 million the average for 1946-50.

#### DANISH-BRITISH BACON CONTRACT BEING NEGOTIATED

On July 5 negotiations began in Copenhagen on the Long-term Danish-United Kingdom bacon contract for 1955-56. Under consideration is the quantity and the price of bacon to be delivered by Denmark in the period October 1, 1955 to September 30, 1956. According to past agreements contract prices may be changed 10 percent either upward or downward. British prices have been weak during the past year. A few months ago the Dutch had to take reduced prices for bacon sold to the United Kingdom. No definite contract is expected to be negotiated in Copenhagen and further talks probably will be resumed in London later this year.

Bacon shipments from Denmark this spring were limited to both England and Western Germany because of the increase in home production in these countries. However, recently the bacon situation in the United Kingdom has become somewhat easier and the limitation previously imposed was removed. The maintenance of high prices for home production in Britain and Germany also has made it more difficult to make sales. Danish exports of bacon to the United Kingdom in 1954-55 will amount to about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  billion kroner.

#### WORLD MEAT TRADE INCREASES IN 1954

A sharp increase in the quantity of meat moving from exporting countries was the dominant feature of the international trade in meat in 1954. Over 5 billion pounds of meat (carcass weight basis) were exported from the 44 countries for which detailed estimates have been prepared by the Foreign Agricultural Service, compared with 4.6 billion in 1953 and 4.1 billion in 1952. Average exports from these countries in 1946-50 were 4.5 billion pounds.

The high level of exports from the important surplus producing countries indicates the increased competition that United States producers face from foreign sources and the difficulty of expanding export markets for meat.



During 1954 the largest exporting countries in order of size were Denmark, Argentina, New Zealand, Australia, Uruguay, the Netherlands, Ireland, France, Canada, the United States and Poland. About 70 percent of the exports originated in Denmark, Argentina, New Zealand and Australia.

As usual, the United Kingdom imported the largest quantity of meat in 1954. Imports of 2.9 billion pounds accounted for almost 70 percent of the total imports of the 44 countries under review. The United States was the second largest importer obtaining 412 million pounds from foreign sources. The U.S.S.R. was third with recorded imports of 185 million pounds from the free world. The next largest importers were West Germany, France, Sweden, Belgium and Italy in that order and there were a number of importers of smaller size.

United States imports of meat declined slightly during 1954 with larger imports of pork not quite offsetting reduced imports of beef. The largest part of the beef imported was canned, mostly canned corned beef from Argentina, Uruguay and Brazil. Imports of pork continued at record high levels during 1954. The imports were principally fresh and frozen pork from Canada and canned hams from the Netherlands, Denmark, Poland, Canada and West Germany.

Although official trade data for the U.S.S.R. are not available, that country imported at least 185 million pounds of meat from non-Communist areas during 1954 as indicated from the export statistics of other countries. The U.S.S.R. made extensive purchases of meat in Denmark, Argentina, New Zealand and Australia and smaller purchases in Canada and a few other countries. Imports by the U.S.S.R. were very small in 1952 but rose sharply in 1953 and 1954.

Germany's imports during 1954 were significantly smaller than a year earlier but her exports were also down from 1953. Net imports in the two years were about equal. France's exports reached very high levels as the government subsidized exports as a price support measure. Sweden's imports rose significantly and exports dropped off. The meat trade of Belgium consisted of fairly large exports and fairly large imports so that the two almost balanced. In the previous two years Belgium's exports had been in excess of its imports. Italy's imports in 1954 were moderately smaller than a year earlier and exports were reduced to an unusually low level.

Exports from Denmark, Argentina, New Zealand and Uruguay during 1954 were greater than a year earlier but exports from Australia were down moderately from 1953. Exports from Ireland rose to high levels reflecting the increased demand for meat in the United Kingdom. Although data for Eastern Europe are not shown separately on the table, exports from Poland declined from 139 million pounds in 1953 to 112 million during 1954. The United Kingdom took most of the exportable surplus and this was mostly bacon. Exports from Canada continued to rise. Exports during 1954 of 156 million pounds were nearly 45 percent greater than in 1953.

(See table on following pages)



MEAT 1/ INTERNATIONAL TRADE, AVERAGES 1934-38 and 1946-50, ANNUAL 1952-1954

Continent and Country	Averages						1954 2/					
	1934-38		1946-50		1952		1953 2/		1954 2/		1954 2/	
	Exports 1,000 lbs.	Imports 1,000 lbs.	Exports 1,000 lbs.	Imports 1,000 lbs.	Exports 1,000 lbs.	Imports 1,000 lbs.	Exports 1,000 lbs.	Imports 1,000 lbs.	Exports 1,000 lbs.	Imports 1,000 lbs.	Exports 1,000 lbs.	Imports 1,000 lbs.
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>												
Canada 2/4/	193,436	24,568	370,750	16,425	102,660	41,940	108,715	35,160	156,275	36,470	156,275	36,470
Honduras	-	115	520	165	600	5/	365	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/
Mexico	23	1,130	56,710	840	115,800	1,190	40,010	1,255	44,805	1,485	44,805	1,485
United States 3/	116,600	262,000	409,300	218,600	148,950	501,517	149,316	438,849	121,564	412,056	121,564	412,056
Cuba	82	7,302	10	23,795	5/	41,880	5/	34,640	5/	21,930	5/	21,930
Dominican Republic	-	410	5,785	530	2,270	5/	2,995	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/
Total North America	310,100	295,500	843,100	260,300	370,300	586,500	301,400	509,900	322,600	471,900	322,600	471,900
<b>EUROPE</b>												
Austria	760	13,097	755	37,175	1,000	3,290	3,485	4,240	8,225	6,440	8,225	6,440
Belgium	8,955	54,500	25,250	190,260	32,380	44,935	58,155	65,575	54,065	54,435	54,065	54,435
Denmark 2/7/	573,200	900	355,530	690	720,620	25	1,009,545	1,331	1,115,200	2,125	1,115,200	2,125
Finland	6,435	1,257	2,835	5,470	-	neg.	-	neg.	-	5/	-	5/
France	4,608	51,958	42,700	111,945	61,940	70,770	65,090	46,325	158,285	74,510	158,285	74,510
Germany, Western 8/	4,148	156,081	1,385	141,600	28,675	100,040	40,160	162,015	15,180	136,155	15,180	136,155
Greece	-	2,689	-	32,105	-	4,625	-	10,455	-	8,130	-	8,130
Iceland	6,248	8	1,245	10	437	5/	11	5/	5/	5/	5/	5/
Ireland	70,881	40	53,320	-	168,800	-	176,940	-	187,940	-	187,940	-
Italy	11,597	73,542	7,260	55,865	7,680	94,680	9,090	68,980	1,085	52,895	1,085	52,895
Netherlands	85,571	21,974	29,335	59,370	282,685	20,425	246,170	37,440	277,300	39,445	277,300	39,445
Norway	2,244	4,378	500	5,870	1,235	290	8,165	3,370	7,110	4,815	7,110	4,815
Portugal	936	525	1,565	7,715	3,735	2,780	7,165	895	6,640	180	6,640	180
Spain 9/	2,666	4,733	230	25,695	1,095	47,080	5/	5/	-	-	-	-
Sweden 3/	31,097	14,914	505	30,110	1,340	6,220	20,190	35,120	13,865	68,070	13,865	68,070
Switzerland	1,350	8,515	1,200	26,520	645	19,700	1,340	10,285	310	14,565	10,285	14,565
United Kingdom 10/	28,008	3,455,910	2,025	3,033,475	11,140	2,410,740	10,125	3,157,625	15,485	2,932,975	15,485	2,932,975
Yugoslavia	18,901	-	7,500	1,200	8,990	-	5,095	-	46,950	-	46,950	-
Total Europe	1,000,900	3,870,300	574,700	3,906,900	1,456,600	2,869,800	1,802,000	3,610,700	2,020,000	3,465,500	2,020,000	3,465,500
Western Europe	857,700	3,865,000	533,300	2,765,100	1,332,400	2,830,600	1,660,700	3,603,700	1,907,600	3,294,700	1,907,600	3,294,700
Eastern Europe 11/12/	143,244	5,337,313	41,600	141,800	124,200	39,200	141,300	7,100	112,400	70,800	112,400	70,800
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia) 12/	8,295	6,213	5/	67,100	5/	12,600	-	46,300	-	185,200	-	185,200





## INTERNATIONAL TRADE IN DAIRY PRODUCTS IN 1954

With total trade by weight only slightly under 1953, a significant occurrence in trade in dairy products during 1954 was the changing status of the United Kingdom as an importer of dairy products.

Only in the importation of butter did the United Kingdom maintain its 1953 level, taking well over two-thirds of the world's butter exports. Imports of cheese by the United Kingdom were down 31 million pounds, 10 percent under 1953, and dried milk was down almost 20 percent with receipts being more than 26 million pounds under 1953. Canned milk imports by the United Kingdom have almost disappeared; in fact the United Kingdom in 1954 was a net exporter of canned milk products. Milk production in the United Kingdom increased in 1954 about 2 percent over 1953.

Coincidental with the United Kingdom's decline in imports of dairy products was the decline of exports by New Zealand. In 1954 New Zealand exported 118 million pounds less of all dairy products than it had the year previous. Most of its decrease was directly attributed to the cancellation of the bulk dairy contract with the United Kingdom.

World butter exports were down about 1.5 percent from 1953, on the basis of comparable country data. While there were certain small gains registered in butter exports they were not enough nor of sufficient size to overcome the 58 million pounds lost by New Zealand. Most of New Zealand's losses were effected after the cancellation of the bulk contract with the United Kingdom in July of 1954. 1954 also saw Finland, Austria and Ireland emerge as net exporters of butter.

Trade in cheese, as measured by exports of reporting countries, remained about the same as 1953, which had found a 10-percent increase in exports over 1952. Canada and New Zealand showed significant losses in cheese exports as did Argentina, where production had suffered from inclement weather. An overall gain of more than 30 million pounds was shown by European cheese exporters while a small, but significant, gain was registered by Africa.

Canned milk was down 6 percent in export tradings during 1954 with the largest loss being taken from Oceania shipments; both Australia and New Zealand showed relative declines of about 40 percent from 1953. Exports of Canada and the United States were down a total of more than 28 million pounds.

Europe was the only major area showing an increase in canned milk exports and this was due to the emergence of the United Kingdom as a net exporter of canned milk products.

Dried milk trade continued to rise and in 1954 stood at about 20 percent above the average for the immediate post war years. The United States was the principal gainer in dried milk shipments in 1954 over 1953, but the bulk of the United States' exports continued to be shipments for relief purposes, primarily under UNICEF auspices, from government-owned stocks.



BUTTER: International Trade in specified countries, Averages  
1934-38, 1946-50, Annual 1953 and 1954, Preliminary

Continent and Country	Averages							
	1934-38		1946-50		1953		1954	
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>								
Canada	2/ 6,643	1/ 1,114	2,239	4,134	191	5	143	3
Mexico	2/ 9	1/ 172	2/ 205	—	—	348	—	345
Panama, Republic of	—	1,799	2/ 1,275	—	—	1,449	—	316
United States	1,152	9,307	4,982	2,253	362	126	3,343	962
Cuba	4/ 610	2/ 23	2/ 946	—	—	566	—	288
Netherlands Antilles	—	452	—	1,500	—	1,400	—	1,450
Trinidad and Tobago	—	1,783	—	1,500	—	800	—	10
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>								
Argentina	18,823	64	21,562	—	35,578	—	33,737	—
Brazil	9	—	7	—	—	225	—	11
Chile	36	64	4/ 556	—	5/ 1,100	—	5/ 2,435	—
Colombia	2	38	2/ 41	—	5/ 20	—	5/ 5	—
Peru	2/ 311	—	4/ 718	—	5/ 1,200	—	—	3,440
Venezuela	—	798	—	5,340	—	2,085	—	2,734
<b>EUROPE</b>								
Austria	5,980	73	2/ 374	—	—	250	5,609	344
Belgium	68	9,930	463	44,948	—	28,694	9	17,304
Czechoslovakia	754	1,918	4/ 5,681	—	7/ 7	—	5/ 19,640	—
Denmark	328,573	37	245,978	—	299,143	—	307,932	—
Finland	8/ 24,467	13	—	6,916	—	3,089	7,072	—
France	8,932	3,640	5,211	25,504	3,283	42,468	6,210	2,970
Germany, Western	—	203,465	—	53,629	—	19,074	—	29,312
Greece	2/ 860	—	—	498	—	512	—	2,208
Hungary	9,118	—	7/ 7	—	7/ 7	—	7/ 7	—
Ireland	51,243	443	3/ 2,851	2/ 7,269	644	10,495	7,532	1,120
Italy	1,067	2,249	3/ 158	3/ 7,269	31	21,067	44	14,197
Netherlands	109,587	356	62,921	310	116,226	18	114,685	22
Norway	726	2	2,691	3/ 894	11,378	—	3,317	2/ 7
Poland	18,665	2	4/ 521	4/ 1,774	7/ 895	—	1,658	—
Portugal	141	229	4/ 7	7/ 7	7/ 7	—	7/ 7	—
Rumania	217	—	7/ 7	—	7/ 7	—	7/ 7	—
Spain	4/ 21	111	7/ 7	—	7/ 7	—	7/ 7	—
Sweden	50,547	353	7,051	833	29,696	—	28,863	—
Switzerland	7	2,033	321	21,590	2	13,076	2	4,429
United Kingdom	1,367	1,074,727	—	606,317	—	631,444	—	632,385
Yugoslavia	282	2/ 35	10/ 55	—	7/ 7	—	7/ 7	—
U.S.S.R. (Europe & Asia)	46,486	401	7/ 7	7/ 7	7/ 7	7/ 7	7/ 6/	65,370
<b>ASIA</b>								
British Malaya 11/	571	4,078	—	2/ 2,600	—	3,576	—	12/ 2,614
Ceylon 11/	—	963	—	3/ 1,723	—	2,132	—	1,802
India 11/	4,142	6,175	—	4/ 921	—	1,385	—	13/ 760
Indonesia 11/	—	12,352	—	3/ 800	—	100	—	5/ 150
Israel	—	4,826	—	3/ 200	—	6,165	—	19,037
Japan	562	141	—	3/ 300	7	4,577	7/ 5/	3,646
Philippines, Republic of	—	1,566	—	4/ 1,609	—	1,422	—	835
<b>AFRICA</b>								
Algeria	12	4,337	—	4/ 4,357	—	8,023	—	9,374
Belgian Congo 11/	13	800	—	3/ 900	—	2,100	—	13/ 2,760
Egypt 11/ 14/ 15/	119	1,140	3/ 54	3/ 1,500	15/ 55	800	—	1,025
Southern Rhodesia	289	116	51	863	76	2,413	—	5/ 1,597
Union of South Africa	15/ 6,192	15/ 3,291	396	7,139	302	4,685	2,864	6/ 4,233
<b>OCEANIA</b>								
Australia	220,151	2	164,318	—	87,460	—	106,817	—
New Zealand	308,895	2	291,200	—	355,086	—	297,123	—

1/ Average for 1935-39. 2/ Less than 500 pounds. 3/ For 1950. 4/ Less than a 5-year average. 5/ Based on incomplete data or exports by country of destination, as reported by major supplying countries. 6/ January - October only. 7/ Not available. 8/ For 1934. 9/ For 1937. 10/ For 1948. 11/ Includes ghee. 12/ January - August only. 13/ January - November only. 14/ Does not include trade with Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. 15/ Year ending August 31.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other information.  
August 8, 1955.

CHEESE: International Trade in Specified Countries, Averages  
1934-38, 1946-50, Annual 1953 and 1954, Preliminary

Continent and Country	Averages				1953		1954	
	1934-38		1946-50		Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports				
	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds	pounds
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>								
Canada	1/ 79,700	1/ 1,342	63,530	3,176	16,429	5,219	5,006	5,943
Mexico	15	895	164	858	8	1,965	10	1,494
Panama, Republic of	—	348	—	2/ 700	—	663	—	334
United States	1,260	54,279	99,706	28,874	5,912	56,215	5,378	49,958
Cuba	13	2/ 428	—	629	—	1,812	—	2,453
Netherlands Antilles	2	611	—	2/ 1,100	—	1,200	—	1,215
Trinidad and Tobago	—	600	—	2/ 1,400	—	4/ 700	—	4/ 855
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>								
Argentina	3,406	110	25,258	—	9,783	—	7,418	—
Brazil	4	362	2/ 2	3/ 1,332	—	6/	—	7/ 81
Chile	62	48	—	3/ 15	—	6/	—	4/ 25
Colombia	2	37	—	3/ 10	—	4/ 1	—	4/ 15
Peru	—	688	—	3/ 404	—	4/ 800	—	—
Venezuela	13	1,235	—	3/ 7,105	—	8,847	—	10,541
<b>EUROPE</b>								
Austria	6,720	1,818	3/ 1,675	3/ 1	3,377	1,876	6,991	3,302
Belgium	344	50,563	3/ 1,182	59,937	798	71,423	641	75,155
Bulgaria	3,554	8/	2/	9/	9/	9/	9/	9/
Czechoslovakia	1,909	2,706	3/ 831	3/ 518	9/	9/	9/	4/ 4,770
Denmark	18,067	33	46,558	31	131,808	569	131,023	1,493
Finland	11,651	31	5,732	—	23,810	—	24,910	—
France	25,039	30,867	23,948	23,485	36,753	18,831	41,063	18,772
Germany, Western	—	2/ 22,000	3/ 4,940	3/ 72,754	8,439	117,712	13,203	128,985
Greece	621	800	—	7,665	—	6,538	—	8,178
Hungary	862	15	2/	9/	9/	9/	9/	9/
Ireland	1,509	60	3/ 2,008	3/ 104	1,289	—	496	712
Italy	53,219	9,669	18,074	8,372	37,587	47,756	37,703	51,524
Malta and Gozo	—	1,647	—	3/ 2,400	—	4/ 600	—	4/ 1,755
Netherlands	132,358	934	75,467	1,086	189,697	584	203,008	697
Norway	4,111	338	712	648	5,646	516	3,353	735
Poland	1,360	317	2/	9/	9/	9/	9/	9/
Portugal	143	386	3/ 722	3/ 13	1,042	50	1,126	69
Rumania	139	90	2/	9/	9/	9/	9/	9/
Spain	3/ 117	3/ 2,502	—	3/ 13	10	868	6	1,669
Sweden	625	2,473	4,453	5,239	10,348	5,778	10,379	10,397
Switzerland	41,678	3,924	18,011	3/ 3,445	40,325	5,806	47,496	6,239
United Kingdom	2,987	319,028	—	411,820	—	327,076	—	295,698
Yugoslavia	4,169	55	2/ 26	—	9/	9/	9/	9/
U.S.S.R. (Europe & Asia)	84	816	3/	3/	9/	9/	9/	2/ 9,975
<b>ASIA</b>								
British Malaya	22	313	—	3/ 569	—	833	—	10/ 610
Ceylon	—	220	—	2/ 500	—	674	—	436
Cyprus	666	83	2/	9/	1,156	398	704	9/
India	4	1,204	—	3/ 848	—	1,152	—	11/ 742
Israel	33	2,138	—	2/ 4,000	—	3/	—	7,762
Japan	—	159	—	2/ 200	—	2,463	—	4/ 328
Philippines, Republic of	—	895	—	1,557	—	2,303	—	4/ 5,205
Syria and Lebanon	553	917	3/ 34	3/ 8,702	—	4/ 1,600	—	4/ 1,685
<b>AFRICA</b>								
Algeria	82	10,833	—	2/ 18,000	—	22,887	—	24,080
Belgian Congo	4	337	—	2/ 500	—	4/ 950	—	4/ 1,751
Egypt 12/	3/ 82	3/ 7,269	3/ 84	3/ 9,000	13/ 183	4/ 7,200	9/	4/ 6,795
Southern Rhodesia	80	64	80	159	87	768	9/	4/ 195
Union of South Africa	14/ 1,465	14/ 496	197	145	196	587	3,257	494
<b>OCEANIA</b>								
Australia	21,750	104	50,185	175	51,635	—	52,546	—
New Zealand	194,000	2	193,653	—	227,024	—	206,835	—

1/ Average 1935-39. 2/ For 1950. 3/ Less than a 5-year average. 4/ Based on incomplete data or exports by country of destination, as reported by major supplying countries. 5/ For 1946. 6/ Incomplete. 7/ January - October only. 8/ Less than 500 pounds. 9/ Not available. 10/ January - August only. 11/ January - November only. 12/ Does not include trade with Anglo-Egyptian Sudan. 13/ Estimated. 14/ Years ending August 31.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other information.  
August 8, 1955



CONDENSED MILK (Condensed and Evaporated): International Trade in Specified  
Countries, Averages 1934-38, 1946-50, Annual 1953 and 1954,  
Preliminary

Continent and Country	Averages				1953		1954	
	1934-38		1946-50		Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports				
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>								
Canada	:1/ 19,755	:1/ 25	:2/ 50,552	:2/ 34	:18,582	:22	:8,051	:35
Mexico	—	:1/ 614	:2/ 3	:2/ 1,464	:10	:10,834	:3/ 38	:4/ 340
Panama, Republic of	—	:4,327	—	:2/ 3,700	—	:1,150	—	:3
United States	:33,837	:452	:504,310	:211	:151,224	:472	:132,830	:60
Cuba	:6/ 17	:4,691	:2/ 5	:30,780	—	:44,466	—	:28,213
Netherlands Antilles	—	:3,060	—	:2/ 6,000	—	:4/ 5,500	—	:4/ 5,880
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>								
Argentina	:46	:311	:2/ 1,089	—	:292	—	:7/ 494	—
Brazil	:8/ 4	—	:2/ 90	—	:9/	:9/	:9/	:2/
Peru	—	:3/ 7,833	—	:5/ 14,954	—	:4/ 9,400	—	:14,850
<b>EUROPE</b>								
Austria	:3/ 428	:3/ 406	:2/ 5	:2/ 597	—	:135	—	:8
Belgium	:2,202	:4,255	:2/ 498	:2/ 67,487	:439	:44,758	:597	:22,624
Czechoslovakia	:8/ 1	:8/ 307	:2/ 6	:2/ 265	:9/	:2/	:9/	:2/
Denmark	:40,439	—	:58,941	:10/ 44	:91,513	—	:65,082	—
France	:3/ 11,277	:2,955	:20,168	:28,952	:29,147	:1,582	:31,975	:1,774
Germany, Western	:9/	:2/	:5/ 272	:5/ 8,881	:3/ 3,278	:3/ 3,805	:1,052	:337
Greece	—	:4,309	—	:2/ 63,532	—	:18,735	—	:19,117
Ireland	:2/ 12,936	:2/ 60	:17,781	—	:13,100	—	:2,740	—
Italy	:3/ 3,301	:344	:2/ 800	:2/ 32,116	:75	:3,245	:82	:661
Netherlands	:356,087	:77	:194,670	:5/ 148	:457,802	:483	:461,544	:46
Norway	:4,667	:67	:113	:6	:3/ 1,712	—	:406	—
Spain	:11/ 26	:11/ 28	—	:17	:2,131	:327	:10	:915
Sweden	:8/ 115	:9/ 18	:1,620	:2/ 5,485	:3,747	—	:2,103	:2
Switzerland	:12,987	:9	:4,448	:4,585	:9,041	:3,599	:10,612	:3,827
United Kingdom	:36,002	:199,204	:8,332	:121,455	:3,659	:71,299	:52,169	:8,202
<b>ASIA</b>								
British Malaya	:9,000	:74,000	—	:5/ 66,000	—	:2,794	—	:12/ 2,510
Burma	—	:8/ 19,945	—	:2/ 17,449	—	:28,738	—	:4,795
Ceylon	—	:9/	—	:5/ 8,700	—	:12,703	—	:3/ 14,223
Hong Kong	—	:2/	—	:5/ 24,000	—	:4/ 7,300	:4,183	:17,413
India	—	:8/ 6,440	—	:16,863	—	:12,199	—	:13/ 7,772
Indonesia	—	:6/	—	:5/ 47,000	—	:4/ 18,000	—	:4/ 22,390
Israel	—	:2,000	—	:5/ 1,200	—	:139	—	:273
Japan	:3/ 9,800	:3/ 1,300	—	:5/ 2,600	:22	:1,775	:4/ 654	:4/ 74
Pakistan	—	:6/	—	:5/ 7,200	—	:4/ 1,800	—	:4/ 497
Philippines, Republic of	—	:40,643	—	:75,642	—	:124,309	—	:4/ 131,375
Thailand	—	:21,731	—	:5/ 37,000	—	:64,066	—	:60,640
<b>AFRICA</b>								
Algeria	—	:3/ 5,900	—	:5/ 9,300	—	:17,198	—	:4/ 12,541
Belgian Congo	—	:9/	—	:5/ 1,300	—	:4/ 3,300	—	:13/ 3,614
Egypt	—	:5/ 96	—	:2/ 2,700	—	:2,077	—	:4/ 3,280
Gold Coast	—	:2/	—	:5/ 6,300	—	:4/ 7,000	—	:4/ 8,670
Union of South Africa	—	:3,105	:513	:2/ 2,786	:1,226	:1,382	:2,726	:648
<b>OCEANIA</b>								
Australia	:15,392	—	:70,748	:2/ 2	:75,281	—	:43,833	—
New Zealand	:6,156	—	:20,348	—	:23,549	—	:13,222	—

1/ Average for 1935-39. 2/ Less than a 5-year average. 3/ Includes dried milk. 4/ Based on incomplete data or exports by country of destination, as reported by major supplying countries. 5/ For 1950. 6/ For 1939. 7/ January - August only. 8/ For 1938. 9/ Not available. 10/ For 1946. 11/ For 1935. 12/ January - September only. 13/ January - November only.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other information.  
August 8, 1955.

DRIED MILK (Whole and Skimmed): International Trade in specified  
countries, Averages 1934-38, 1946-50, Annual 1953 and 1954,  
Preliminary

Continent and Country	Averages				1953		1954	
	1934-38		1946-50		Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports
	Exports	Imports	Exports	Imports				
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>								
Canada	1/ 5,580	1/ 431	24,357	4,791	37,422	120	24,688	81
Mexico	—	466	—	10,962	2/	19,103	2/	6,426
Panama Republic of	—	305	3/ 2,000	—	—	4/	—	4/
United States	4,804	6,055	280,041	2,176	144,168	6,301	197,707	719
Cuba	—	5/	6/ 2	2,066	—	7/ 1,000	—	614
Netherlands Antilles	—	4/	3/ 1,100	—	—	7/ 1,500	—	7/ 1,415
<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>								
Argentina	1/ 97	—	6/ 2,452	—	4/	4/	4/	4/
Brazil	8/ 2	8/ 172	6/ 3,481	—	—	6,094	—	2/ 3,558
Peru	—	2/	6/ 684	—	7/ 1,300	—	—	663
Venezuela	—	10/ 1,807	6/ 10/45,622	—	—	74,753	—	10/ 72,208
<b>EUROPE</b>								
Austria	2/	2/	3/ 9	6/ 1,255	—	99	—	7
Belgium	11/ 41	11/ 7,741	6/ 851	6/ 12,988	19,709	19,491	21,195	19,802
Czechoslovakia	—	154	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/	4/
Denmark	594	—	9,782	6/ 478	25,151	65	25,593	20
France	2/	2,168	1,847	26,279	4,337	9,815	4,594	4,365
Germany, Western	4/	4/	3/ 19,851	3/ 8,057	3,248	2/	3,851	6,519
Greece	—	209	6/ 26,894	—	—	2,282	—	1,701
Ireland	627	213	2,935	454	4,062	10,579	1,723	—
Netherlands	37,223	111	6/ 33,524	6/ 8,276	64,491	7,011	71,398	8,161
Norway	10	90	35	115	2/	17	1	5/
Spain	12/ 14	12/ 375	—	1,152	2	13	1	64
Sweden	—	8/ 864	9,758	—	9,206	—	5,168	—
Switzerland 13/	14/ 3,036	—	6/ 2,260	3,927	7,792	5,522	7,630	3,302
United Kingdom	—	30,859	6/ 1,963	6/ 63,388	5,075	134,645	6,633	108,022
<b>ASIA</b>								
British Malaya	—	643	—	6/ 3,766	—	3,435	—	15/ 2,742
Burma	—	4/	—	3/ 1,000	—	254	—	7/ 104
Ceylon	—	4/	—	3/ 2,300	—	2/	—	2/
Hong Kong	—	4/	—	3/ 2,200	—	7/ 1,700	881	3,765
India	—	1,525	—	6/ 16,665	—	36,268	—	16/ 38,585
Indonesia	—	4/	—	3/ 6,500	—	7/ 3,000	—	2,870
Israel	—	1,268	—	3/ 16,000	—	26,843	—	29,738
Japan	2/	2/	—	3/ 62,000	371	3,997	6,592	7/ 3
Philippines, Republic of	—	1/ 735	—	3,988	—	5,830	—	5,325
Thailand	—	4/	—	3/ 4,600	—	1,461	—	1,458
<b>AFRICA</b>								
Belgian Congo	—	4/	—	3/ 2,300	—	7/ 3,000	—	16/ 4,063
Egypt	—	8/ 38	—	3/ 2,082	—	1,922	—	7/ 3,650
Union of South Africa	8/ 7	8/ 724	6/ 149	1,071	204	829	379	16
<b>OCEANIA</b>								
Australia	3,324	299	22,558	6/ 141	57,119	—	55,177	—
New Zealand	16,111	—	41,698	—	117,550	—	87,785	—

1/ Average for 1935-39. 2/ Included with canned milk. 3/ For 1950. 4/ Not available. 5/ Less than 500 pounds. 6/ Less than a 5-year average. 7/ Based on incomplete data or exports by country of destination as reported by major supplying countries. 8/ For 1938. 9/ For 10 months. 10/ Includes canned milk. 11/ Average for 1937-39. 12/ For 1935. 13/ Includes infant foods. 14/ For 1939. 15/ Incomplete. 16/ For 11 months.

Foreign Agricultural Service. Prepared or estimated from official statistics, reports of Agricultural Attaches and other information.  
August 8, 1955.



**BELGIUM IMPOSES TRANSMISSION  
TAX ON IMPORTED OILCAKE**

The Belgian Government by a Royal Decree has imposed a new transmission tax on imported oilseed cake, reports the American Embassy, Brussels. As of June 16, 1955, a 3-percent tax is levied on the importer of oilseed cake, based on the value of the product after the import duty is paid. A Royal Decree dated June 17 reduces the sales tax collected from wholesalers on this product from 4.5 to 2.75 percent.

The principal effect of these changes in tax rates is to give greater protection to oilseed crushers because in recent years foreign sources of supply have tended to promote (by favorable price ratios) the export of oil and oilcake instead of oilseeds. Farm organizations in Belgium object to the new tax and expect an increase in oilseed cake prices by 5 to 6 Belgian francs per metric quintal (.045 to .054 U. S. cents per pound) to be reflected in higher feed prices. Domestic production of flaxseed for oil, relatively unimportant, is the only locally produced oilseed that might derive any benefit from higher prices for oilcake.

**ARGENTINE TUNG OIL EXPORTS TO  
U.S. 1.1 MILLION POUNDS IN JULY**

Argentine exports of tung oil to the United States during July are reported at 480 metric tons (1,058,208 pounds). Thus, on the basis of U. S. imports of tung oil from Argentina during the period November 1954-May 1955 of 18.1 million pounds, plus Argentine exports during May-July of 2.3 million pounds, U. S. imports through August may total about 20.4 million pounds. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, August 1, 1955.) This volume of oil would represent 94 percent of the voluntary agreed maximum quota of 21.8 million pounds that may enter the United States during the marketing year ending October 31, 1955.

- - - - -

**PUBLICATIONS RELATING TO U.S. FOREIGN AGRICULTURAL TRADE**

Issued recently and available upon request  
from the Foreign Agricultural Service, U.S.  
Department of Agriculture, Washington, 25, D. C.

Foreign Agricultural Trade Digest, July issue. (Contains report on U.S. agricultural exports and imports for fiscal year 1955).

1955 Cashew Nut Prospects Down. Foreign Agriculture Circular FN 7-55.

World Coffee Production for 1955-56 Forecast at 45 Million Bags. Foreign Agriculture Circular FCOF 7-55.

Summary of Programs for Sale of Tobacco Under Title I of Public 480 as of June 30, 1955. Foreign Agriculture Circular FT 40-55.

U. S. Trade in Dairy Products, Average 1935-39 and Annually 1950-54. Foreign Agriculture Circular FD 6-55.

Policy and Programs Which Tend to Deter U. S. Trade in Agricultural Products in Malaya. Foreign Agriculture Circular FATP 25-55.

India's Fertilizer Program. Foreign Agriculture Circular FATP 23-55.

- - - - -

---

L A T E   N E W S

---

The amount available for dairy subsidies in Australia has been reduced by \$2.7 million; price increases will be made on the domestic retail prices of dairy products, but export prices will remain at world levels.

- - - - -

On July 31, the Government of Pakistan announced the devaluation of the Pakistani rupee from a par value of R. 3.309 to US \$1 to a par value of R. 4.762 to US \$1. Among other things, the Government stated that the action will encourage increased production of cotton.

The cotton firms in Karachi are quite concerned about the action as it will create many new problems for them. However, at this time it is impossible to evaluate accurately the affects that the devaluation will have on Pakistani cotton production and exports. As soon as information that will permit a reasonable evaluation is available the Foreign Agricultural Service will publish additional details regarding the situation.

- - - - -

On August 4, the U. S. Export-Import Bank announced the approval of a 12-months cotton credit of \$60 million for Japan. The credit will bear an interest rate of  $3 \frac{1}{8}$  percent per annum and will cover shipments of American cotton to Japan between the date of the signing of the agreement by the Bank and the Bank of Japan and July 31, 1956. Details regarding operations under the credit will be announced after the signing of the agreement, which should be soon. This is the fifth Ex-Im cotton credit that has been granted to Japan since 1951.





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Washington 25, D. C.

Penalty for Private Use to Avoid  
Payment of Postage, \$300

(PMGC)

Official Business

USDA, FOREIGN AGRL. SERVICE  
THELMA WILLAHAN  
4-13-55  
F CR C-1